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April 18, 2000

Dr. Jane Henny, Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henny:

I urge you to allow non-dairy milk (e.g., rice, soy, and coconut milk) to continue to be labeled as milk, and to require animal-derived milk to be labeled as such (e.g., cows' milk, goats' milk).

The dairy industry should not be allowed to own and monopolize the term "milk" especially since it is quite common in English to refer to both dairy and non-dairy mill as "milk". In fact, the term milk refers to a variety of liquids, including the breast mill of human (as opposed to cow) mothers. It is ludicrous for any particular group to monopolize a common English word such as "milk".

In addition, it is misleading to refer to cows' milk as simply "milk". Therefore, I urge you to require the dairy industry to accurately and truthfully label its products.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Gipson

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